

HOMEWORK 1 SOLUTIONS

Handed out: Tuesday, Aug. 29, 2017 Due: Wednesday, Sept. 13 midnight

Solution 1. For the matrix Σ to be a covariance matrix, it needs to be symmetric (which obviously is the case) and semi-definite positive, i.e. for every $\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^2, \mathbf{x}^T \Sigma \mathbf{x} \geq 0$ or for every (x_1, x_2) the following needs to hold:

$$\sigma^2 x_1^2 + 2\omega\sigma\tau x_1 x_2 + \tau^2 x_2^2 = (\sigma x_1 + \omega\tau x_2)^2 + \tau^2 x_2^2 (1 - \omega^2) \geq 0$$

A sufficient condition for Σ to be semi-positive definite is that $\det \Sigma = \sigma^2 \tau^2 (1 - \omega^2) \geq 0$ which is equivalent to $|\omega| \leq 1$. We herein assume that $\sigma \neq 0$ and $\tau \neq 0$. In this case, $\mathbf{x}^T \Sigma \mathbf{x} \geq 0$. The matrix Σ is further non-singular if $\det \Sigma > 0$, which is equivalent to $|\omega| < 1$.

The conditional distribution of x_2 given x_1 equals to the value of the joint density $f(x_1, x_2)$ over the marginal density $f(x_1)$, so let's start with calculating the joint density:

$$\begin{aligned} f(x_1, x_2) &= \frac{1}{2\pi(\det \Sigma)^{1/2}} \exp \left[-\frac{1}{2} \begin{pmatrix} x_1 - \mu_1 & x_2 - \mu_2 \end{pmatrix} \Sigma^{-1} \begin{pmatrix} x_1 - \mu_1 \\ x_2 - \mu_2 \end{pmatrix} \right] \\ &= \frac{1}{2\pi\sigma\tau\sqrt{(1-\omega^2)}} \exp \left[-\frac{1}{2(1-\omega^2)} \left(\frac{(x_1 - \mu_1)^2}{\sigma^2} + \frac{(x_2 - \mu_2)^2}{\tau^2} - 2\omega \frac{(x_1 - \mu_1)(x_2 - \mu_2)}{\sigma\tau} \right) \right] \end{aligned}$$

Dividing the joint density by the marginal one $f(x_1) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}\sigma} \exp(-(x_1 - \mu_1)^2/2\sigma^2)$, we can derive

$$\begin{aligned} f(x_2|x_1) &= f(x_1, x_2)/f(x_1) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}\tau\sqrt{(1-\omega^2)}} \\ &\quad \cdot \exp \left[-\frac{1}{2(1-\omega^2)\tau^2} \left((x_1 - \mu_1)^2 \frac{\tau^2\omega^2}{\sigma^2} + (x_2 - \mu_2)^2 - 2\omega\tau \frac{(x_1 - \mu_1)(x_2 - \mu_2)}{\sigma} \right) \right] \\ &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}\tau\sqrt{(1-\omega^2)}} \exp \left[-\frac{1}{2(1-\omega^2)\tau^2} (x_2 - \mu_2 - \omega\tau/\sigma(x_1 - \mu_1))^2 \right] \end{aligned}$$

In conclusion, the conditional distribution of x_2 given x_1 is also a Gaussian distribution with $\mathcal{N}\left(\mu_2 + \omega\tau/\sigma(x_1 - \mu_1), (1 - \omega^2)\tau^2\right)$

p.s. One can also start with the joint distribution, then keep x_1 constant and complete the

square on x_2 .

Solution 2. The solution procedure goes as follows.

- **Univariate normal distribution:**

The density is $p(y|\mu, \sigma^2) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}\sigma} \exp(-\frac{(y-\mu)^2}{2\sigma^2})$, which can be re-written as

$$p(y|\mu, \sigma^2) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \exp\left(-\frac{y^2}{2\sigma^2} + \frac{y\mu}{\sigma^2} - \frac{\mu^2}{2\sigma^2} - \log \sigma\right)$$

It is clear that $h(y) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}}$, $\theta = [\theta_1, \theta_2] = [\mu/\sigma^2, -1/2\sigma^2]$, $R(y) = [y, y^2]$, $\Psi(\theta) = \mu^2/2\sigma^2 + \log \sigma = -\theta_1^2/4\theta_2 - \frac{1}{2} \log(-2\theta_2)$.

- **Binomial distribution:**

The density is $p(y|n, p) = \binom{n}{y} p^y (1-p)^{n-y}$, which can be re-written as

$$p(y|n, p) = \binom{n}{y} \exp\left(y \log \frac{p}{1-p} + n \log(1-p)\right)$$

It is clear that $h(y) = \binom{n}{y}$, $\theta = \log(\frac{p}{1-p})$, $R(y) = y$, $\Psi(\theta) = -n \log(1-p) = n \log(1+e^\theta)$.

- **Geometric distribution:**

The density of the distribution (corresponding to the number of failures before a success) can be written as $p(y|p) = p(1-p)^y$. For such case

$$p(y|p) = \exp\left(y \log(1-p) + \log p\right)$$

It is clear that $h(y) = 1$, $\theta = \log(1-p)$, $R(y) = y$, $\Psi(\theta) = -\log p = -\log(1-e^\theta)$.

- **Poisson distribution:**

The density is $p(y|\lambda) = \frac{\lambda^y \exp(-\lambda y)}{y!}$, which can be re-written as

$$p(y|\lambda) = \frac{1}{y!} \exp\left(y \log \lambda - \lambda\right)$$

It is clear that $h(y) = \frac{1}{y!}$, $\theta = \log \lambda$, $R(y) = y$, $\Psi(\theta) = \lambda = \exp(\theta)$.

• **Exponential distribution:**

The density is $p(y|\lambda) = \lambda \exp(-\lambda y)$, which can be re-written as

$$p(y|\lambda) = \lambda \exp(-\lambda y) = \exp \left(-\lambda y + \log(\lambda) \right)$$

and it is clear that $h(y) = 1$, $\theta = \lambda$, $R(y) = -y$, $\Psi(\theta) = -\log(\lambda) = -\log(\theta)$.

Solution 3. Integrate the density over the whole sample space $y \in Y$, if $f_\theta(y)$ is a probability density, we can derive that

$$\begin{aligned} \int_y f_\theta(y) dy &= \int_y h(y) \exp \left(\theta \cdot R(y) - \Psi(\theta) \right) dy \\ 1 &= \int_y h(y) \exp[\theta \cdot R(y)] / [\exp \Psi(\theta)] dy \\ \exp \Psi(\theta) &= \int_y h(y) \exp (\theta \cdot R(y)) dy \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, $\Psi(\theta) = \log \int h(y) \exp (\theta \cdot R(y)) dy$. Taking its derivative w.r.t. θ we can get

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d}{d\theta} \Psi(\theta) &= \frac{1}{\int h(y) \exp (\theta \cdot R(y)) dy} \cdot \int h(y) \exp (\theta \cdot R(y)) R(y) dy \\ &= \frac{1}{\int h(y) \exp (\theta \cdot R(y) - \Psi(\theta)) dy} \cdot \int h(y) \exp (\theta \cdot R(y) - \Psi(\theta)) R(y) dy \\ &= \int R(y) h(y) \exp (\theta \cdot R(y) - \Psi(\theta)) dy = \mathbb{E}_{p(y|\theta)} R(y) \end{aligned}$$

Solution 4. The solution procedure goes as follows.

- For the marginal prior density of μ : the solution process is simpler when we use the precision $\tau = 1/\sigma^2$, whose prior distribution is naturally the Gamma distribution with same parameters (λ_σ, α) . The marginal prior distribution on μ can be obtained by margining out the precision τ :

$$\begin{aligned}
p(\mu) &= \int_0^\infty p(\mu, \tau) d\tau \\
&= \int_0^\infty \sqrt{\frac{\tau \lambda_\mu}{2\pi}} \exp\left[-1/2\tau \lambda_\mu (\mu - \xi)^2\right] \frac{\alpha^{\lambda_\sigma}}{\Gamma(\lambda_\sigma)} \tau^{\lambda_\sigma-1} \exp(-\tau \alpha) d\tau \\
&= \int_0^\infty \sqrt{\frac{\tau \lambda_\mu}{2\pi}} \exp\left[-\tau(1/2\lambda_\mu (\mu - \xi)^2 + \alpha)\right] \frac{\alpha^{\lambda_\sigma}}{\Gamma(\lambda_\sigma)} \tau^{\lambda_\sigma-1} d\tau
\end{aligned}$$

Introducing the following notation of $z = [\alpha + 1/2\lambda_\mu (\mu - \xi)^2]\tau$, we can further derive that:

$$\begin{aligned}
p(\mu) &= \sqrt{\frac{\lambda_\mu}{2\pi}} \cdot \frac{\alpha^{\lambda_\sigma}}{\Gamma(\lambda_\sigma)} \cdot \int_0^\infty \tau^{1/2} \exp(-z) \tau^{\lambda_\sigma-1} d\tau \\
&= \sqrt{\frac{\lambda_\mu}{2\pi}} \cdot \frac{\alpha^{\lambda_\sigma}}{\Gamma(\lambda_\sigma)} \cdot [\alpha + 1/2\lambda_\mu (\mu - \xi)^2]^{-(1/2+\lambda_\sigma+1-1)} \int_0^\infty z^{1/2} \exp(-z) z^{\lambda_\sigma-1} dz \\
&= \sqrt{\frac{\lambda_\mu}{2\pi}} \cdot \frac{\alpha^{\lambda_\sigma}}{\Gamma(\lambda_\sigma)} \cdot [\alpha + 1/2\lambda_\mu (\mu - \xi)^2]^{-\lambda_\sigma-1/2} \Gamma(\lambda_\sigma + 1/2) \\
&= \frac{\Gamma(2\lambda_\sigma/2 + 1/2)}{\Gamma(2\lambda_\sigma/2)} \cdot \left[1 + \frac{\lambda_\mu \lambda_\sigma}{\alpha \cdot 2\lambda_\sigma} (\mu - \xi)^2\right]^{-(2\lambda_\sigma+1)/2} \cdot \sqrt{\frac{\lambda_\mu}{2\pi\alpha}} \\
&= \frac{\Gamma(2\lambda_\sigma/2 + 1/2)}{\Gamma(2\lambda_\sigma/2)} \cdot \left[1 + \frac{\lambda_\mu \lambda_\sigma}{\alpha \cdot 2\lambda_\sigma} (\mu - \xi)^2\right]^{-(2\lambda_\sigma+1)/2} \cdot \frac{1}{\sqrt{\pi}} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\lambda_\sigma(\alpha/\lambda_\mu \lambda_\sigma)}}
\end{aligned}$$

Hence, it is a Student's t distribution with parameters $(\xi, \alpha/\lambda_\mu \lambda_\sigma, 2\lambda_\sigma)$.

- For the σ^2 : with the same manner, but now integrating over μ , we can get:

$$\begin{aligned}
p(\sigma^2) &= \int_{-\infty}^\infty p(\mu, \sigma^2) d\mu \\
&= \mathcal{IG}(\sigma^2 | \lambda_\sigma, \alpha) \int_{-\infty}^\infty \mathcal{N}(\mu | \xi, \sigma^2 / \lambda_\mu) d\mu \\
&= \mathcal{IG}(\sigma^2 | \lambda_\sigma, \alpha) \times 1 = \mathcal{IG}(\sigma^2 | \lambda_\sigma, \alpha)
\end{aligned}$$

Note that we are using $\mathcal{N}(\cdot | a, b)$ and $\mathcal{IG}(\cdot | a, b)$ to denote the normal and inverse gamma densities, respectively. So its marginal prior density remains an inverse-gamma density with parameters (λ_σ, α) .

- Posterior parameters: Given an i.i.d. sequence of samples $\mathcal{D} = (x_1, \dots, x_n)$, the

posterior density $p(\mu, \sigma^2 | \mathcal{D})$ is proportional to the prior $p(\mu, \sigma^2)$ times the likelihood $p(\mathcal{D} | \mu, \sigma^2)$:

$$\begin{aligned}
p(\mu, \sigma^2 | \mathcal{D}) &\propto p(\mu, \sigma^2) p(\mathcal{D} | \mu, \sigma^2) \\
&= \mathcal{N}(\mu | \xi, \sigma^2 / \lambda_\mu) \cdot \mathcal{IG}(\sigma^2 | \lambda_\sigma, \alpha) \cdot \prod_{i=1}^n \mathcal{N}(x_i | \mu, \sigma^2) \\
&\propto [(\sigma^2)^{-1/2} \exp(-\frac{\lambda_\mu}{2\sigma^2}(\mu - \xi)^2)] \cdot [(\sigma^2)^{-\lambda_\sigma-1} \exp(-\alpha/\sigma^2)] \\
&\quad \cdot [(\sigma^2)^{-n/2} \exp(-\frac{1}{2\sigma^2} \sum_{i=1}^n (x_i - \mu)^2)] \\
&= (\sigma^2)^{-1/2-n/2-\lambda_\sigma-1} \cdot \exp(-\alpha/\sigma^2) \\
&\quad \cdot \exp(-\frac{\lambda_\mu}{2\sigma^2}(\mu - \xi)^2 - \frac{1}{2\sigma^2} \sum_{i=1}^n (x_i - \mu)^2)
\end{aligned} \tag{1}$$

Let us denote the sample mean $\hat{\mu} = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n x_i$ and variance $\hat{\sigma}^2 = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n (x_i - \hat{\mu})^2$, we can express the summation term $\sum_{i=1}^n (x_i - \mu)^2$ as the following:

$$\begin{aligned}
\sum_{i=1}^n (x_i - \mu)^2 &= \sum_{i=1}^n (x_i - \hat{\mu} + \hat{\mu} - \mu)^2 \\
&= n\hat{\sigma}^2 + n(\hat{\mu} - \mu)^2 + 2 \sum_{i=1}^n (x_i - \hat{\mu})(\hat{\mu} - \mu) \\
&= n\hat{\sigma}^2 + n(\hat{\mu} - \mu)^2.
\end{aligned} \tag{2}$$

Plugging Eq (2) back into Eq (1), we can organize and get the following:

$$\begin{aligned}
p(\mu, \sigma^2 | \mathcal{D}) &\propto (\sigma^2)^{-1/2-n/2-\lambda_\sigma-1} \cdot \exp(-\alpha/\sigma^2) \\
&\quad \cdot \exp(-\frac{\lambda_\mu}{2\sigma^2}(\mu - \xi)^2 - \frac{1}{2\sigma^2} \sum_{i=1}^n (x_i - \mu)^2) \\
&= (\sigma^2)^{-1/2-n/2-\lambda_\sigma-1} \cdot \exp[-(\alpha + \frac{1}{2}n\hat{\sigma}^2)/\sigma^2] \\
&\quad \cdot \exp(-\frac{1}{2\sigma^2} [\lambda_\mu(\mu - \xi)^2 + n(\hat{\mu} - \mu)^2])
\end{aligned} \tag{3}$$

By completing the square, we can simplify the expression inside the final exponential term as:

$$\begin{aligned}
\lambda_\mu(\mu - \xi)^2 + n(\hat{\mu} - \mu)^2 &= \lambda_\mu\mu^2 - 2\lambda_\mu\mu\xi + \lambda_\mu\xi^2 + n\hat{\mu}^2 - 2n\hat{\mu}\mu + n\mu^2 \\
&= \mu^2(\lambda_\mu + n) - 2\mu(\lambda_\mu\xi + n\hat{\mu}) + \lambda_\mu\xi^2 + n\mu^2 \\
&= (\lambda_\mu + n)\left(\mu - \frac{\lambda_\mu\xi + n\hat{\mu}}{\lambda_\mu + n}\right)^2 + \frac{\lambda_\mu n(\hat{\mu} - \xi)^2}{\lambda_\mu + n}
\end{aligned} \tag{4}$$

Plugging Eq (4) back into Eq (3), we can get:

$$\begin{aligned}
p(\mu, \sigma^2 | \mathcal{D}) &\propto (\sigma^2)^{-1/2 - n/2 - \lambda_\sigma - 1} \cdot \exp[-(\alpha + \frac{1}{2}n\hat{\sigma}^2)/\sigma^2] \\
&\quad \cdot \exp(-\frac{1}{2\sigma^2}[\lambda_\mu(\mu - \xi)^2 + n(\hat{\mu} - \mu)^2]) \\
&= (\sigma^2)^{-1/2 - n/2 - \lambda_\sigma - 1} \cdot \exp[-(\alpha + \frac{1}{2}n\hat{\sigma}^2)/\sigma^2] \cdot \exp(-\frac{1}{2\sigma^2} \frac{\lambda_\mu n(\hat{\mu} - \xi)^2}{\lambda_\mu + n}) \\
&\quad \cdot \exp(-\frac{1}{2\sigma^2}[(\lambda_\mu + n)(\mu - \frac{\lambda_\mu\xi + n\hat{\mu}}{\lambda_\mu + n})^2]) \\
&= (\sigma^2)^{-1/2 - n/2 - \lambda_\sigma - 1} \cdot \exp[-\frac{1}{\sigma^2}(\alpha + \frac{1}{2}n\hat{\sigma}^2 + \frac{\lambda_\mu n(\hat{\mu} - \xi)^2}{2\lambda_\mu + 2n})] \\
&\quad \cdot \exp(-\frac{1}{2\sigma^2}[(\lambda_\mu + n)(\mu - \frac{\lambda_\mu\xi + n\hat{\mu}}{\lambda_\mu + n})^2])
\end{aligned} \tag{5}$$

It is in the form of a normal-inverse-gamma product:

$$p(\mu, \sigma^2 | \mathcal{D}) = \mathcal{N}\left(\mu \mid \frac{\lambda_\mu\xi + n\hat{\mu}}{\lambda_\mu + n}, \sigma^2/(\lambda_\mu + n)\right) \cdot \mathcal{IG}\left(\sigma^2 \mid \lambda_\sigma + n/2, \alpha + \frac{1}{2}n\hat{\sigma}^2 + \frac{\lambda_\mu n(\hat{\mu} - \xi)^2}{2\lambda_\mu + 2n}\right)$$

Solution 5. Note that

$$\begin{aligned}
\text{Var}[\bar{X}] &= \text{Var}\left[\frac{1}{N} \sum_{n=1}^N X_n\right] = \frac{1}{N^2} \text{Var}\left[\sum_{n=1}^N X_n\right] \\
&= \frac{1}{N^2} \left(\sum_{n=1}^N \sum_{n'=1}^N \text{Cov}[X_n, X_{n'}] \right) \\
&= \frac{1}{N^2} \left(\sum_{n=1}^N \text{Var}[X_n] \right) + \frac{2}{N^2} \left(\sum_{n=1}^{N-1} \sum_{m=1}^{N-n} \text{Cov}[X_n, X_{n+m}] \right)
\end{aligned}$$

For a zero-mean stationary process, $\text{Var}[X_n] = \sigma^2 \quad \forall n$, and $\text{Cov}[X_n, X_{n+m}] = \sigma^2 \rho_m \quad \forall n, m$, we can further derive that:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Var}[\bar{X}] &= \frac{1}{N^2} \left(\sum_{n=1}^N \text{Var}[X_n] \right) + \frac{2}{N^2} \left(\sum_{n=1}^{N-1} \sum_{m=1}^{N-n} \text{Cov}[X_n, X_{n+m}] \right) \\ &= \frac{1}{N} \sigma^2 + \frac{2}{N^2} \left(\sum_{n=1}^{N-1} \sum_{m=1}^{N-n} \sigma^2 \rho_m \right) \\ &= \frac{1}{N} \sigma^2 + \frac{2}{N^2} \left((N-1)\sigma^2 \rho_1 + (N-2)\sigma^2 \rho_2 + \dots + \sigma^2 \rho_{N-1} \right) \\ &= \frac{1}{N} \sigma^2 + \frac{2}{N^2} \sigma^2 \sum_{m=1}^{N-1} (N-m) \rho_m \end{aligned}$$

It can be smaller than the one corresponding to uncorrelated X_n 's (which is σ^2/N) if negative correlations exist, for example, consider the following process:

$$\rho_m = \begin{cases} 1 & m = 0 \\ -0.1 & m = 1 \\ 0 & m > 1 \end{cases}.$$

Solution 6. The figures should look like Figure 1.

Solution 7. The answer is given as follows.

- (a) Note that the trace (tr) is the sum of a square matrix's diagonal components, and the trace trick means $tr(AB) = tr(BA)$ if all dimensions work out, we can derive:

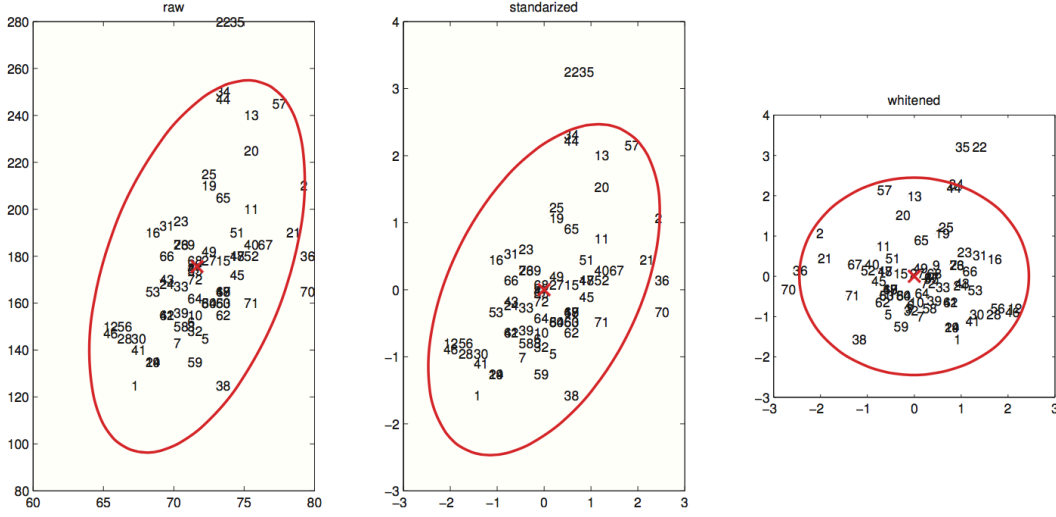


Figure 1: raw data & standardized data & whitened data

$$\begin{aligned}
\log p(\mathcal{D}|\hat{\Sigma}, \hat{\mu}) &= \sum_{i=1}^N \log p(\mathbf{x}_i|\hat{\Sigma}, \hat{\mu}) \\
&= \sum_{i=1}^N \left[-\frac{1}{2}(\mathbf{x}_i - \hat{\mu})^T \hat{\Sigma}^{-1}(\mathbf{x}_i - \hat{\mu}) - \frac{1}{2} \log(|\det \hat{\Sigma}|) \right] \\
&= -\frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^N (\mathbf{x}_i - \hat{\mu})^T \hat{\Sigma}^{-1}(\mathbf{x}_i - \hat{\mu}) - \frac{N}{2} \log(|\det \hat{\Sigma}|) \\
&= -\frac{N}{2} \sum_{i=1}^N \frac{1}{N} \text{tr} \left((\mathbf{x}_i - \hat{\mu})^T \hat{\Sigma}^{-1}(\mathbf{x}_i - \hat{\mu}) \right) - \frac{N}{2} \log(|\det \hat{\Sigma}|) \\
&= -\frac{N}{2} \text{tr} \left(\hat{\Sigma}^{-1} \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N (\mathbf{x}_i - \hat{\mu})(\mathbf{x}_i - \hat{\mu})^T \right) - \frac{N}{2} \log(|\det \hat{\Sigma}|) \\
&= -\frac{N}{2} \text{tr}(\hat{\Sigma}^{-1} \hat{S}) - \frac{N}{2} \log(|\det \hat{\Sigma}|)
\end{aligned}$$

- (b) The MLE estimate for the mean and the full covariance matrix are $\hat{\mu}_{ML} = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N \mathbf{x}_i$, and $\hat{\Sigma}_{ML} = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N (\mathbf{x}_i - \hat{\mu}_{ML})(\mathbf{x}_i - \hat{\mu}_{ML})^T$, respectively. Now note that $\hat{\Sigma}_{ML}^{-1} \hat{S} = \mathbf{I}$, where \mathbf{I} is a D -dimensional identity matrix. For the number of free parameters d , the mean vector contributes D parameters and the covariance matrix contributes $D(D+1)/2$ parameters because of symmetry, hence $d = D + D(D+1)/2$. Then

$$\begin{aligned} BIC &= \log p(\mathcal{D} | \hat{\Sigma}_{MLE}, \hat{\mu}_{MLE}) - \frac{d}{2} \log(N) \\ &= -\frac{N}{2} D - \frac{N}{2} \log(|\det \hat{\Sigma}_{MLE}|) - \frac{D + D(D+1)/2}{2} \log(N). \end{aligned}$$

- (c) We can observe that the relationship $\hat{\Sigma}_{ML}^{-1} \hat{S} = \mathbf{I}$ holds even for restricted diagonal case. For the number of free parameters d , the mean vector and the covariance matrix both contribute D parameters (only the diagonal elements for the covariance matrix), hence $d = 2D$. Then

$$\begin{aligned} BIC &= \log p(\mathcal{D} | \hat{\Sigma}_{MLE}, \hat{\mu}_{MLE}) - \frac{d}{2} \log(N) \\ &= -\frac{N}{2} D - \frac{N}{2} \log(|\det \hat{\Sigma}_{MLE}|) - D \log(N). \end{aligned}$$